

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

PRICE \$24 PER MONTH

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

TO BE SOLD OR LET.

L A HACIENDA—AT THE P.
R. S. L. No. 21.

A large and Commodious Residence
sufficient Land for 3 or 4 Towns
If required it is easily convertible into
residential dwellings.

For full Particulars, apply to
**THE HONGKONG LAND INV.
MENT & AGENCY CO., L.**
Victoria Buildings,
Hongkong, 18th December, 1889.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instru-
to Sell by Public Auction, on
TUESDAY
the 24th December, 1889, at 2 P.M., at
Sales Room, Queen's Road,
SUNDRY FURNITURE &c.,
belonging to F. GERMAN Bankrupt
comprising—

RING WAGON, CHAIRS, PAIR
 PANELS, SUIT CASE, SADDLE, SADDLE
 BLE, CARD TABLE, GOLD CLOCKS,
 CHIMNEY GLASSES, TOILET TABLE
 AND SCREENS. Also
 An Assortment of JEWELLERY, F
 SONAL EFFECTS, &c, belonging to F
 HUNTINGTON. Bankrupt.
 AND SUNDRY OTHER GOODS
 Terms of Sale.—At a Public
 J. M. ARMSTRONG
 Auctioneer.
 Hongkong, 26th December, 1889.

PUBLIC AUCTION.
 M^R J. M. ARMSTRONG will sell, at
 the instance of the Hongkong and
 SATURDAY,
 the 28th of December, instant,
 at the Premises,
 ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL
 GROUND situated at VICARIA, HONG
 being SUB-SECTION No. 1 of the RE
 160 PORTION OF SECTION 4 OF A LINE
 IN THE 18th DISTRICT, and more
 PARTICULARS OF WHICH SEE THE

and the Appurtenances of the Premises
 Further Particulars and Conditions of
 may be obtained upon application to
 THE AUCTIONEER,
 Messrs. CALDWELL & WILKINS,
 Solicitors.
 Hongkong, 20th December, 1889.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION
 THE KWAN TSE
 COUPS

Value \$200 and \$100 respectively. Also
 Consolation Cups value \$100 each.
 The 2nd Stage will be shot on the 21st
 will be shot on next SATURDAY, 21st
 December, at 2 15 p.m., commencing at
 7 a.m. Entrance Fee 30 cents.
 Lunch will be provided by Messrs. W. & O. Wharf
 at the Range at 1.45 p.m. and will take over
 Competitors.

A SHELTON HOOPER,
 Honorary Secretary
 Hongkong, 20th December, 1889.

WOODYEA'S ROY

OPEN TWICE DAILY.

LOCATION
OLD CENTRAL MARKET.

TO-NIGHT TO-NIGHT

FIRST NIGHT OF THE COMIC
PANTOMIME
THE FOUR LOVERS.

REDUCED PRICES! REDUCED PRICES!

Boxes of 6 Chairs	\$ 2.00
Single Chairs in Boxes	1.50
Dress Circle Chairs	1.00
Stalls, Carpeted Seats	.50
Soldiers and Sailors in uniform—to	0.15
Cats.	

ROBERT LOVE,
 General Agent,
 Hongkong, 20th December, 1888.

STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBA
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"KHIVA."
 Captain Crews, will leave for the above place
 on or about MONDAY, the 23rd inst., at Noon
 E. L. WOODIN,
 Superintendant.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1888.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAM PACKETS
FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.
THE Steamship—

"GLENOGLE."
 Captain Deane, will be despatched as above on
 or about the 27th instants.

This steamer has superior accommodation for
 Passengers, and carries a Doctor and Steward
 and Cook.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 19th December, 1890. [265]

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.
THE P. & O. S. N. K. Y. S. Steamship

"ORIENTAL,"
will leave for the above place, about 34 hours
after her arrival with the next outward English
Mail.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent,
Hongkong, 20th December, 1890. [1]

CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.—
No. 23

ON WEDNESDAY NEXT, being
CHRISTMAS DAY, and on WEDNES-
DAY, the 1st January, 1890, being New
Year's Day, this Office and the Opium Ex-
amination Hall will be CLOSED to the trans-
action of all Business, but work at the
Customs Stations will proceed as usual.

F. A. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

CUSTOMERS
Kanton, 16th December, 1880. 18645

FOR SALE.

WATERBURY WATCHES.
\$3.70. \$3.70.

PRICE REDUCED TO
TWO DOLLARS & SEVENTY CENTS.
REPAIRS FIVE PER CENT. 50 CENTS FOR
EACH WATCH.

Orders from Outports to be accompanied with
warrant for repairs.

THE HOUSE OF RUSSIAN KAISHA.
(Sole Agents in Japan & China)
for the Sale of the above Watches',
10, Queen's Road Central.
General Manager, Martin House,
HONGKONG, 10th at 4th, 1888.

MAGNIFIEN & CAMERON'S PENS
SOLD EVERYWHERE.
THE RHINDO PEN WITH OBLIQUE POINTS,
Not Recommended by 2347 Newspapers and
Awarded many Prizes & Medals. 171

WINE AND SPIRITS.

AT APPOINTMENT.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
 (ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841).
 HONGKONG.

To invite attention to the following old landed brands, all of which are of excellent quality and value for the money.
 The same being specially selected by our London House, and brought direct from the most famous distillers in England, and bottled and corked in the most perfect manner, and with a moderate price.
 It is only necessary to state the names and quantities of Wine or Spirit wanted, and the initials for quality desired.
 Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invoice and general use.)

	Per Case.	Per Bottle.
A. Alto Verde, good quality, Green Cap.	\$10.00	\$1.00
B. Verde, superior quality, Red Cap.	12.10	1.10
C. Fine Old Verde, Full color quality, Black Seal Cap.	14.125	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Verde, extra quality, Violet Cap.	18.150	1.50

SEBRES.
 A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Cap.

B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Cap.	7.50	0.75
C. Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Cap.	10.100	1.00
CO. Superior Natural Sherry, Red Seal Cap.	10.100	1.00
D. Very Superior Old Pale Liqueur, White Seal Cap.	12.110	1.10
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Cap.	14.125	1.25

OLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Cap.	\$4.50	\$4.50
B. St. Julien, Red Cap.	4.50	4.50
C. St. Julien, Red Cap.	7.50	7.50
D. St. Julien, Red Cap.	11.00	11.00

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Cap.	\$12.10	\$1.10
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Cap.	14.125	1.25
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Cap.	18.150	1.50
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Cognac, 1875 Vintage, Red Cap.	24.200	2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Cap.	8.075	0.75
B. Watson's Blend, White Cap.	8.075	0.75
C. Watson's Blend, White Cap.	8.075	0.75
D. Watson's Blend, White Cap.	8.075	0.75

GENUINE BOURBON WHISKY.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Cap.	4.50	0.45
B. Fine Unwatered, White Cap.	4.50	0.45
C. Fine A.V.H. Geneva, White Cap.	5.25	0.50

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Cap.	4.50	0.45
B. Fine Unwatered, White Cap.	4.50	0.45
C. Fine A.V.H. Geneva, White Cap.	5.25	0.50

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	4.50	0.45
Curacao	4.50	0.45
Cherry Cordial	4.50	0.45
Cherry Cordial	4.50	0.45

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communication as Editorial matter should be addressed to "The Editor," and not to individuals by name. Correspondence is requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the service is limited.

TELEPHONE NO. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 20TH, 1899.

Tax officials members of the Legislative Council are naturally anxious that the special rate to be levied for the construction of the Gap Rock Lighthouse should not be allowed to become a permanent charge on shipping frequenting the port. They might even go further and contend that no rate for the purpose should be levied at all. When the Hongkong Lighthouse Ordinance was introduced the preamble read: "Whereas it is expedient to erect lighthouses, buoys, or beacons in the harbours of the Colony, and the approaches thereto," etc. When the Bill was in Committee, however, the then Chief Justice (Sir JOHN STUART) suggested that the word "approaches" should be omitted, as we could have no jurisdiction outside the Colony; and it was omitted accordingly. The Colony is now, however, about to erect, pay for, and maintain a lighthouse outside the jurisdiction, and if the word "approaches" had not been struck out on that occasion the Bill introduced on Wednesday last would have been unnecessary. The Lighthouse Ordinance was subsequently incorporated in the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, and the Bill now before the Council to amend the latter is for the purpose of authorizing the levy of a rate for a lighthouse outside the Colony, the existing law only authorizing light dues for lighthouses in the Colony. It is clear, however, from the reports of the proceedings in Council, that it was never intended the light dues should become a source of revenue to the Colony, beyond the amount required to defray the cost of the construction and upkeep of the lights themselves. When the original Bill was discussed in Committee on the 9th December, 1878, the Hon. F. RYAN said "the main point the Council should be clear about was that the dues would only be levied to meet the necessary expenditure and should not be so heavy as to act as a burden on the trade of the Colony." The then Governor, the late Sir

ARTHUR KENNEDY, replied "that a contention should be regarded as a maximum rate." It is now proposed to increase this rate, which was regarded as a maximum. If the rate had been found insufficient such a source would have been reasonable and proper, but as a matter of fact the existing rate of one cent per ton is more than sufficient to cover the expense both of the Gap Rock and the existing lights. The mere fact that the Gap Rock light will be outside the Colony has really no bearing on the argument, because the original intention was to provide the best lights practicable, and the striking out of the word "approaches" in the Bill of 1878 was merely an excess of legal nicety.

The total amount received in light dues from the time they were imposed amounted up to the end of last year to \$289,462. What the original cost of the lighthouse was, we are unable to say precisely, but it was certainly well within \$50,000, and the cost of upkeep, varying from \$5,000 to \$8,000 a year, has not amounted to more than a similar sum of \$30,000. Deducting the expenditure of \$180,000 from the revenue of \$289,000, we have a balance left of \$119,000 with which to commence the construction of the Gap Rock Lighthouse, and whatever further sum may be required for the completion of the work would be made up in a very few years by the ordinary excess of revenue over expenditure. However, the principle of an additional rate has already been assented to, and it will probably not be thought advisable to re-open that part of the question. But what has been agreed to is simply the levy of a rate for each ton of cargo as may be necessary to cover the cost of the new light. The Governor admits that "there was a most distinct understanding to that effect." Experience has shown that it will not be safe to rely on a distinct understanding unenforced by express legal provision. The Hon. F. RYAN expressed the hope on Wednesday that "what Mr. MacDonnell had stated and what His Excellency had agreed to would be noted down." But this is not sufficient, because things "noted down" are very often never looked at again, and when they are their binding effect is sometimes disputed. It will therefore be prudent to have it expressly provided in the Ordinance that the levy is to cease as soon as a certain sum shall have been collected. Notwithstanding the very distinct understanding that existed at the time the Lighthouse Ordinance was passed, when it was suggested, after the cost of the lighthouse had been much more than paid for, that there should be a reduction of the rate, the Secretary of State replied that he could not sanction any diminution of the amount of revenue. From this we may see how important it is that the power of taxation be proposed to give to the Governor in the present case should be limited and not general. The matter is one that specially comes within the province of the Chamber of Commerce, and we would suggest, to that body the desirability of taking legal advice on the Bill and submitting to the Governor such amendments as may be necessary to secure that the due to be levied shall not exceed in their gross amount the cost of the new lighthouse, or, if any difficulty be apprehended in adjusting the account, then a certain fixed sum, say \$150,000 or \$200,000. The cost of the steam tender *Panama*, of course, have to be included in the calculation.

In the case of Regina v. Li-Hi, tried at the Criminal Sessions on Wednesday, Dr. Ho Kai was instructed to prosecute, not to defend.

The gunboat *Ochokasfer*, Lieut. Commander Maxwell left yesterday with the command of the *Chung Shing* and the *Chung Shing* is now on its way to the port.

We notice that the tall chimney of the old *Chung Shing* refinery at Wanchai is below ground level. It is now about a decade since this shaft gave out any smoke, and we presume the remaining buildings of the refinery will soon make way for dwelling houses.

An Imperial Decree of the 15th December has been received at Canton by telegraph, intimating that the request of the late Governor of Hongkong to be allowed to organize three fresh regiments (each consisting of 500 men) for the Chinese coast prefecture, cannot be complied with.

We hear from Canton that on Tuesday night, the 17th inst., a fire broke out in Sin-chung, Honan, which destroyed ten houses. Some of the fire broke men tried to reach through the adjacent houses, but the fire was too intense, and the houses, and in the middle that ensued four men were wounded.

We understand that grave complaints have been made against steam launches at the Regatta infringing the Regulations made for convenience of the racing crews. It is all probability several instances will be issued in connection with yesterday's proceedings, and it may be desirable to draw attention to the Regulation which the launches are said to have infringed.

Under the provisions of section 2 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1878, the following regulations have been approved by His Excellency the Governor, with effect from the 1st and 2nd inst., being the days of the Victoria Regatta. The regulations are:—

1.—A Red Barge will be hoisted at staff on the Judges' Stand minutes before the starting of a race, the adjacent houses, but the fire was too intense, and the houses, and in the middle that ensued four men were wounded.

2.—During the time that this Red Barge is flying, all boats, yachts, etc., are to keep outside the Western Harbour, and are to be careful not to interfere with the competing crews.

3.—The Western Harbour of the Course will be a line from the Judge's Stand on the Kowloon (Governor's) to the substation mooring-buoy of the Royal Naval Establishment at Kowloon, and continued on to the Kowloon Point.

4.—Launches following the race must keep astern of the sternmost of the competing boats. (The following regulation does not apply to the launch of the United or other Official of the Club.)

5.—Masters, Harbour Master, etc., 1899.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS.")

Correction.

LONDON, 15th December.

THE ALARMING EPIDEMIC

THROUGHOUT EUROPE.

An alarming epidemic of influenza, which has spread over Europe, has reached London.

In Berlin the Law Courts, Schools, and Theatres are closed.

PORTUGUESE EXPLORERS IN AFRICA.

The Times publishes an editorial which indicates that Major Pinto has been ordered to

kill several hundred people and occupying two British garrisons which are supposed to have been previously given by General Johnston.

Major Pinto is said to have announced a policy of conquest to Nyassa.

London telegrams state that the Government of Portugal reject their claim to Nyassa and in despite of British remonstrances.

THE GROUNDWATER SENTENCE.
 The result of the trial of the defendants connected with the murder of the Chinese in that they have found the defendants guilty, and they have been sentenced to imprisonment for life.

CRICKET.

ROYAL ARTILLERY v. HONGKONG MEDICALS.

This match, which is intended to be an annual one, was played yesterday, and after some goal and occasionally amusing cricket the game ended in favour of the "Sawbones" by a large number of runs. Robbins and Moore opened for the Doctors and totalling 165 runs. Moore fell to Major Miles. Ball helped Robbins to take the score to 25, when the former sent one up in the air which was easily held. Lawson and Robbins then commenced to pile on the runs; the former paying particular attention to Major Miles, hitting him occasionally over the boundary. Notwithstanding various changes of bowling the batsmen remained together till the end. On resuming after fifteen Robbins was immediately bowled by a Yorker from Doone. Barrow did not stay long, as he sent an easy one back to Major Miles, which that gentleman scooped. On Shuttleworth joining Lawson the scoring was again very rapid. Shuttleworth sending several to the boundary, while Lawson drove Major Miles into the Murray Barracks, then over the North boundary, and finally into the harbour. The match declared their innings closed at 204, Lawson having got 91 and Shuttleworth 20.

The R.A. commenced with Lead Woodcock and Sergeant Ball. The wickets went down rapidly, and with the exception of Major Miles, none of the Artillerymen were at all home with the bowling. The total only reached 107, so that the Medics won by 97 runs. Lawson had 8 wickets for 35, Robbins and Shuttleworth having one each for 23 and 28 runs respectively.

The following are the scores:—

	Runs.
Robbins	165
Moore	165
Lawson	91
Shuttleworth	20
Major Miles	107
Doone	23
Barrow	28

ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Lead Woodcock	10
Sergeant Ball	10
Major Miles	10
Doone	10
Barrow	10
Shuttleworth	10
Robbins	10
Moore	10
Lawson	10
Major Miles	10
Doone	10
Barrow	10
Shuttleworth	10
Robbins	10
Moore	10
Lawson	10
Major Miles	10
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